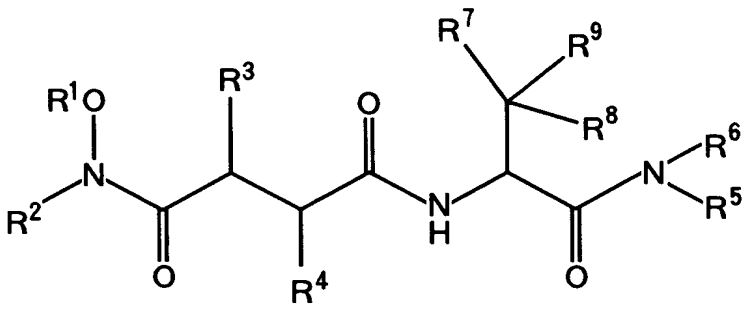
Abstract of the Disclosure

Disclosed are compounds which have not only potent metallo-proteinase-inhibiting activity but also amazingly excellent bioavailablity and biological activity in vivo, including the property of being well absorbed via oral routes, thereby serving as useful pharmaceuticals, intermediates and processes for the production thereof. The disclosed compounds of the formula (I):



(I)

wherein R^1 is hydrogen, or a hydroxy-protecting group; R^2 is hydrogen, or an amino-protecting group; R^3, R^7, and R^8, which may be identical or different, are each independently hydrogen, hydroxy, unsubstituted or optionally substituted (C_1-C_6) alkyl, or unsubstituted or optionally substituted aryl-(C_1-C_6) alkyl; R^4 is unsubstituted or optionally substituted (C_1-C_6) alkyl, or unsubstituted or optionally substituted aryl-(C_1-C_6) alkyl; R^5 and R^6, which may be identical or different, are each independently hydrogen, an unsubstituted or optionally substituted (C_1-C_{11}) alkyl, (C_3-C_6) cycloalkyl, or heterocyclic group; R^9 is hydrogen, hydroxy, amino, and a group of the formula: -X-Y wherein X is (C_1-C_6) alkylene, or phenylene, Y is a group of the formula: -A-B or -B, wherein A is (C_1-C_6) alkylene, imino, and (C_1-C_6) alkyleneimino, and B is hydrogen, amino, amidino, acylimidoyl, unsubstituted or optionally

substituted imidazolyl, unprotected or optionally protected bis(phosphono)methyl, or unprotected or optionally protected bis(phosphono)hydroxymethyl; or salts thereof are useful in pharmaceutical and/or veterinary compositions, particularly as metalloproteinase inhibitors which inhibit matrix metalloproteinases or tumor necrosis factor-α-converting enzymes (TNF-α convertases).